

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Applicants are grateful to the Examiner for a telephonic discussion of the case and the clarification of the 102(e) rejection. As discussed, applicants have amended claim 1 to delete the part (v) ingredient (inorganic non-builder salt) and made the necessary amendments to dependent claims.


Blything, US Patent 6,720,298, Singh, US Patent 6,689,735, Singh, US Patent 6,759,380 all recite compositions comprising 10 – 80% by weight of a detergency builder which also lists phosphate. Consequently, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over these patents should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In a serious effort to expedite the prosecution of the application, applicants enclose herewith the Terminal Disclaimer and the Statement of Common Ownership.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application as amended be allowed to issue.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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STATEMENT OF COMMON OWNERSHIP (35 U.S.C. §103(c))

The present application, serial number 10/699,996 and U.S. Patents 6,720,298, 6,689,735 and 6,759,380 were, at the time of the invention of application serial number 10/699,996 was made, owned by or subject to obligation of assignment to the same person.

Respectfully submitted,

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